

Healthcare

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- Medicare Compliance
- Pharmaceutical & Medical Device
- Professional Liability Defense

CONTACTS

Lindsey M. Romano

Partner

Allison J. Becker

Partner

OVERVIEW

GRSM's healthcare practice is comprehensive and full-service. Clients rely on us throughout the life cycle of their business, from acquiring property and setting up operations through licensing and certification, employee relations and defense against professional liability claims. Our team includes lawyers with healthcare-related degrees and experience working for healthcare providers and government agencies. Wherever our national and regional healthcare clients do business, or plan to do business, we support them, every step of the way.

The more than 125 lawyers in our practice represent a range of healthcare interests: hospitals, long-term care facilities, skilled nursing facilities, correctional healthcare providers, behavioral health facilities, private practices and diagnostic testing facilities. Our clients also include managed care entities, medical and dental practices, medical device manufacturers, mental health, physical and massage therapists, and

provider networks.

Each client benefits from our experience with legal, medical, regulatory and business considerations within the healthcare context.

For example, our trial attorneys have achieved defense verdicts in high-demand trials alleging elder abuse, birth injuries and wrongful death, and our transactions team has guided a national chain of nursing homes in its multistate change of ownership. Our prominent role in healthcare trade associations helps us keep clients ahead of emerging regulations and available for new opportunities in a competitive business landscape.

GOVERNMENT & REGULATORY MATTERS

Our healthcare lawyers routinely represent providers in dispute resolution hearings as well as:

- Advise on state and federal regulatory compliance and help obtain licenses and certification.
- Guide on compliance with HIPAA and other health privacy requirements.
- Represent healthcare providers in False Claims Act litigation and counsel on how to avoid fraud and abuse violations.

Respond to government investigations and negotiate with the government.

- Defend providers in Medicare and Medicaid hearings and appeals before the Provider Reimbursement Review Board, Medicare Office of Hearings and Appeals, and state agencies.
- Develop compliance plans and policies and employee training programs.

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

Healthcare employers face unique requirements in managing their workforces. To protect our clients and prevent claims from arising, we advise on wage-and-hour issues and personnel policies, and draft employee handbooks.

When employers must manage claims, we bring depth to the defense of allegations of harassment, discrimination and retaliation made by employees. And we have tried many employment cases to defense verdicts, including where plaintiffs claimed they were discharged for complaining about regulatory violations.

We also have extensive experience drafting and litigating non-competition agreements for doctors, practice groups and independent physician associations in the changing regulatory climate.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY DEFENSE

We have successfully defended health maintenance organizations, hospitals, doctors, nurses, surgical clinics, long-term care facilities, and other providers against wrongful death, medical malpractice, and other claims throughout every stage of litigation, including at trial, arbitration, or appeal.

Our lawyers understand that reputations, livelihoods and careers are at risk. Depending on each client's situation, we take an aggressive defense strategy, seeking to knock out claims at an early stage whenever possible. We also have experience with administrative proceedings in hospitals and at state licensing boards.

BUSINESS LITIGATION

We regularly handle healthcare-related commercial disputes at trial, on appeal and in arbitration and mediation, including issues involving:

- Consumer protection/deceptive trade
- Unfair competition/antitrust in mergers and acquisitions
- Vendor contracting disputes
- Class actions against healthcare providers relating to alleged overbilling, understaffing and other fraudulent practices

TRANSACTIONS

Market consolidation and the rise of value-based healthcare are a few factors that have reshaped the business and delivery of healthcare. We advise on:

- Enterprise structure and governance
- Mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and affiliation arrangements
- Business and corporate reorganizations
- Practice management joint ventures
- Transactions involving both for-profit and nonprofit organizations

We draw on our knowledge of the unique conditions of the healthcare industry, including privacy, reimbursement, antitrust, tax, and myriad local, state and federal regulations, to provide the best advice and counsel for our clients' vital business transactions.